

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Grants available through Wyoming Youth for Natural Resource Program**

Education, technology, volunteerism and service merge at the Wyoming Youth for Natural Resource Program, which is accepting youth grant applications to fund the development of wildlife and natural resource conservation projects until Nov. 1.

Grants of \$500 to \$5,000 will be awarded to public schools, youth organizations or other nonprofit organizations to fund the development of youth centered projects. Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom Education Coordinator Sarka White said the statewide program strives to provide youth with outstanding educational opportunities focused on agriculture and natural resources.

Grant applications should emphasize the proposed project's enhancement of the well-being of Wyoming citizens, as well as its potential learning benefits to students. Projects should include at least one of the following elements:

- Project should address at least one wildlife or natural resource conservation issue. For example, habitat and open space enhancement and protection, the relationship of industrial development to habitat or non-consumptive wildlife management.
- The development of the project serves as a catalyst to initiate conservation and/or best practices in areas of wildlife and natural resources.
- Participation in the project should encourage the involvement of young people in volunteer activities centered around natural resources.
- Project plans should apply new technologies. For example, implement the use of geographic information systems or remote sensing to classroom learning. Also, consider sustainability of the proposed project once grant funding has ended.

In addition to the above elements, grant requests are also evaluated on the project's proposal to collaborate with other natural resource agencies and other funding sources, as well as the ability to measure outcomes and objectives. Grant applications should put emphasis on the project, rather than simply requesting funding for equipment.

The Wyoming Youth for Natural Resources is a mutual effort of the Wyoming Community Foundation and Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom (WAIC). The Wyoming Youth for Natural Resources advisory committee and Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom representatives review and allocate grant funding.

Former Governor Jim Geringer established an endowment fund to fulfill grant proposals for the projects in 1999. Geringer established the fund through the donation of proceeds from the sale of the Governor's complimentary hunting licenses.

Grant applications can be obtained at [www.wycf.org](http://www.wycf.org). For more information about the Wyoming Youth for Natural Resources program or applying for grant funding, please contact Sarka White, grant administrator, at (307) 777-6618 or [swhite@state.wy.us](mailto:swhite@state.wy.us) or Samin Dadelahi, program officer, at (866) 70-TRUST or [samin@wycf.org](mailto:samin@wycf.org).

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